

Appl. No. : 09/880,474
Filed : June 12, 2001

Section 112 Rejections

By the Office Action, the Examiner indicted the rejection of Claims 5, 8 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 112(2). Applicant has amended these claims to address the issues raised by the Examiner and believes that these claims are in compliance with Section 112.

Rejections Under Sections 102/103

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-15 as being anticipated by or unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,643,086 to Alcorn. The Examiner asserts that Alcorn teaches a method of encrypting control code for operating a casino gaming device in a symmetrical (private key) encryption process.

Applicant agrees with the Examiner that Alcorn discloses use of a symmetrical encryption process. However, Applicant asserts that Alcorn does not teach or suggest encrypting actual operating code in a symmetrical encryption process as in the present invention.

As detailed in the present application, in the prior art, only a signature is encrypted and not the actual operating code. This represents a significant problem, since the code itself remains in a readable and usable form. (See Page 20, Paragraphs [0060]-[0061]).

Alcorn discloses this undesirable arrangement. In accordance with the method disclosed by Alcorn, a bit string is generated from a data set for a casino game. This unique bit string is then encrypted to provide an encrypted signature. The signature is stored along with the data set. Authentication is performed by generating a second bit string and comparing that bit string to the decrypted bit string stored in the signature. See Col.2, lines 44-65. Thus, Alcorn explicitly teaches providing only an encrypted signature along with a non-encrypted data set.

Appl. No. : 09/880,474
Filed : June 12, 2001

Independent Claim 1 is believed to be allowable over the prior art, including Alcorn, for at least the reason that the claim recites a method of decrypting encrypted operating code (and not a signature comprising a bit string calculated from the code). Alcorn does not teach a method of decrypting and using code, but only generating authentication data from a data set and comparing that authentication data to a bit string which is decrypted.

Independent Claim 5 is believed allowable over the prior art, including Alcorn, for at least the reason that the claim recites a method in which actual operating data is encrypted (and not a signature comprising a bit string calculated from the code, as in Alcorn).

Independent Claim 10 is believed allowable over the prior art, including Alcorn, for at least the reason that it recites a gaming device including a memory for storing encrypted operating data, a separate secure access module for storing a private decryption key, and a separate programable memory for storing decrypted data for use. Applicant asserts that Alcorn does not teach a gaming device having all of these elements.

Independent Claim 16 is believed allowable over the prior art, including Alcorn, for at least the reason that the claim recites a method in which actual operating data is encrypted (and not a signature comprising a bit string calculated from the code, as in Alcorn). In addition, this claim recites a method in which different portions of a set of data are encrypted with different private keys in a symmetrical encryption process. One key is provided to a gaming device and is used to decrypt only the portion of the set of data which was encrypted by that key. Such a configuration and its advantages are described at Page 17, Paragraph [0071] of the present application.

Appl. No. : 09/880,474
Filed : June 12, 2001

Claims 2-4, 6-9, 13-15 and 17 are believed allowable for at least the reason they depend from an allowable independent claim.

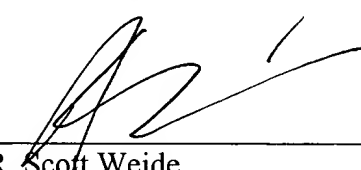
Summary

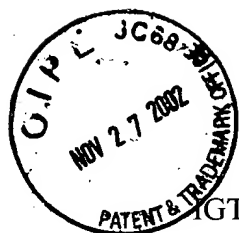
Applicant asserts that Claims 1-10 and 13-17 are in a condition for allowance and respectfully requests a notice as to the same. If any matters remain outstanding, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 22, 2002

By: _____


R. Scott Weide
Registration No. 37,755
Weide & Miller, Ltd.
11th Floor, Suite 1130
330 South 3rd Street
Las Vegas, NV 89101
(702)-382-4804 (Pacific time)



#4

IGTECH.0013P

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Jamal Benbrahim) Group Art Unit: 3714
Appl. No. : 09/880,474)
Filed : June 12, 2001)
For : **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR**)
SECURING GAMING MACHINE)
OPERATING DATA)
Examiner : Carmen D. White)

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

November 22, 2002

(Data)

R. Scott Weide, Reg. No. 37,755

ADDENDUM TO RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is an Addendum to the Response to Office Action showing the changes made to the claims made thereby.

5. A method of providing operating data for use by [the operation of] a gaming device configured to present [of the type presenting] a game for play to a player in which if the player receives a predetermined outcome the player is declared a winner of the game comprising the steps of:

encrypting said operating data in a symmetrical encryption process with a first key;

providing said encrypted operating data to said gaming device;

initiating operation of said gaming device;

locating a decryption device;

providing said encrypted operating data to said decryption device;

RECEIVED
DEC - 2 2002
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Appl. No. : 09/880,474
Filed : June 12, 2001

decrypting said encrypted operating data with said decryption device using said first key; and
storing said decrypted operating data.

8. The method in accordance with Claim 5 including the step of verifying that [the
authenticity of] said decrypted data is authentic before storing said data.

10. A gaming device of the type in which a player is permitted to participate in a game
upon placing a wager and in which the player is provided an award if the player receives a
predetermining winning event, said gaming device executing operating data to present said game
comprising:

a memory device for storing operating data encrypted in a symmetrical encryption process;
a secure access module including a stored private decryption key [decryption device] for
decrypting data encrypted in a symmetrical encryption process;
control code causing effecting location of said private decryption key and use of said key to
decrypt said operating data;

a programmable memory for storing said decrypted data; and

a controller adapted to use said decrypted data in the operation of said gaming device.